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future careers. To mention as the offspring of Fulton's genius only the first workable submarine torpedo-boat, the first commercially practicable steam vessel, and the first steam propelled warship, is to entitle him to a place among the giants of the engineering profession.

The book will prove highly interesting to every reader who enjoys the story of successful achievement, but engineers and scientific men generally will derive a keener enjoyment, as they watch the development of the trained scientific mind. It will mean little to the general reader but much to the engineer to note how "he was the first to treat the elementary factors in steamship design: dimensions, form, horsepower, and speed in a scientific spirit; to him belongs the credit of having coupled the boat and the engine as a working unit."

In fact Fulton, more than a hundred years ago, realized what our engineering schools have only begun to emphasize recently—that an engineering device to be a success must pay a profit; otherwise it is a mechanical toy. Before Fulton, others had built steamboats which moved through the water, and thus were mechanically successful. Fulton, in the *Clermont*, was the first to build a steamboat that could earn a profit. Mr. Dickinson is to be congratulated on the clearness with which he has developed this important point, and we say finally that the reading of his book has been a great pleasure.

WALTER M. MCFARLAND.

Quellen und Darstellungen zur Geschichte der Burschenschaft und der Deutschen Einheitsbewegung. Im Auftrage der Burschenschaftlichen Historischen Kommission in Gemeinschaft mit Ferdinand Bilger, Wilhelm Hopf, Friedrich Meinecke, Otto Oppermann, Paul Wentzcke, herausgegeben von HERMAN HAUPT. Band IV. (Heidelberg. 1913. Pp. vii, 399.)

THESE *Quellen* represent a labor of love of certain graduate members for the student organization, called the Burschenschaft, with which they were connected in their undergraduate days and toward which they have maintained a respectful attachment in after life, largely because of its historic rôle in spreading the gospel of German unity at a time when that gospel was far from welcome. *Quellen*, in respect of the Burschenschaft, the essays composing this fourth volume of the series undoubtedly are, but in respect of the larger field of German unity, which they also undertake to serve, they are at best hardly more than remote back-eddies. And yet as back-eddies may, on close scrutiny, surrender a great deal of information of a rather recondite sort, so the quiet waters into which these scattered contributions take us reveal conditions and opinions, especially in educated, provincial circles, that the historian, occupied with far-sounding ministerial decrees and irresistible economic forces, is apt to overlook. The beginnings of the Burschenschaft at Jena following the patriotic fervor released by the Wars of Liberation, the infantile diseases of the young organization, the professorial in-

spirers and mentors, are some of the themes treated by contributors in the form of explanatory comment, accompanying a display of more or less weighty documents. Among these, certain personal statements in the form of letters or diaries revealing the dominant *Stimmung* of one or another German circle stand out with a very instant appeal. The few pages of the *Denkwürdigkeiten* of F. J. Frommann (pp. 40-47) and the vigorous communication of the young Gervinus (p. 362 ff.) furnish materials that every historian will welcome and turn to good account, while a letter from a reactionary student (p. 242 ff.), indited with extraordinary fervor, excellently serves to bring to our attention that the conservatism of the Prussian *Junker* was not all pure greed but had a very convincing philosophic or, perhaps I should say, emotional basis.

On the whole, however, these documents with their attendant glosses may fairly be said to excel through their negative content, for they open a vision, desolating as an abyss, of the backwardness of Germany compared with her western neighbors. The country had recently acquired a promising literature and was profoundly musing upon the secrets of religion and philosophy, but politically it was about in a line with Kamchatka, and hopelessly prostrate before its two-score divinely imposed despots. By the very effort these young Burschenschafter make to arouse "the political animal" in themselves, you get a pathetic glimpse of the remoteness of dreaming Germany, newly locked by the reaction in the prison of medievalism, from the live and pressing issues of the day. But the most pathetic as also the most amusing document in this negative line is unquestionably the Reichstag decree of 1793 (p. 29). In that year the perennially somnolent Diet of the Holy Roman Empire miraculously awakened to the fact that there was a guillotine operating on the Place de la Révolution and mumbled its disapproval of the innovation (and specifically of the flying seeds of revolt sprouting in the form of German student associations) in a passionately inarticulate fulmination, one sentence of which growlingly heaves its huge bulk through five paragraphs! Perhaps it is a very personal impression but to me the bluster of the ghostly Diet about the horrible new times, couched in the famous *Kanzleystyl* which still curses German academical writers (its tell-tale finger-prints are on almost every contribution to this volume), affords an invaluable flash-light picture of all those heavy obstacles that had to be conquered before the vital Germany of our day could be born.

FERDINAND SCHEVILL.

The Life and Letters of George William Frederick, Fourth Earl of Clarendon, K.G., G.C.B. By the Right Hon. Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., F.R.S., D.C.L., LL.D. In two volumes. (London: Edward Arnold; New York: Longmans, Green, and Company. 1913. Pp. xi, 366; x, 383.)

THESE two volumes contain new and in some respects useful material for early Victorian history. They consist of selections from Lord